

**Abstract**

A mass storage business continuance time maker function host system that allows one or more MVS mainframe hosts to have the time to: establish business continuation volumes to mirror the standard mass storage volumes; synchronize 5 business continuation volumes with the standard volumes so that their contents are identical; split off a business continuation volume from its standard volume counterpart to make the business continuation volume available for other purposes; and enable a business continuation volume to be used to restore the contents of a standard volume—all without halting or disrupting the business 10 applications using standard volumes. These and related services are provided in a transparent manner to a host mainframe by manipulating MVS format volume labels, volume tables of contents and indexes, catalog entries, data set names and similar mechanisms on mass storage devices connected to host mainframes using the MVS operating system.